

Claim 1, lines 2 and 3: “with socket supports attaching at each end of said housing inside said housing ends” is modified to read – with socket supports attached to each end of said housing and mounted inside of said housing ends --. {In this phrase, “housing” refers to ‘101 housing’ and “housing ends” refers to ‘103 housing ends’.

Claim 1, line 4: “mounting” is rephrased as --mounted--.

Claim 1, line 5: “inserting” is rephrased as --inserted--.

Claim 1, line 4: Examiner has called attention to the need to delete the word “having”. Applicants request that the word “having” remains as is. The reason for this is the word “having”, as a gerund, has the function to introduce the phrase that delineates the parts of the structure and how those parts are connected. The gerund “having” is echoed in subsequent phrases in Claim 1.

1. (Currently amended) A modular fluorescent light fixture comprising a 5-sided housing consisting of housing ends, housing sides, and a housing top, with socket supports attached at each end of said housing inside and mounted to said housing ends, said socket support having T5 socket sets attaching thereto, having a reflector mounted to said socket supports and said housing sides, having two F14T5 fluorescent tubes inserted into said socket sets in front of said reflector, having a ballast mechanically attaching to said housing having electrical connections from said ballast to said socket sets.

Claim 2, line 2: “installing” is rephrased as --installed--.

2. (Currently amended) The modular fluorescent light fixture of claim 1, consisting of said modular fluorescent light fixture installed adjacent to an identical second modular fluorescent light fixture of claim 1, having the fluorescent tubes of the respective modular fixtures oriented parallel to each other.

Claim 3, line 2: “installing” is rephrased as --installed--.

3. (Currently amended) The modular fluorescent light fixture of claim 1, consisting of said modular fluorescent light fixture installed adjacent to an identical second modular fluorescent light fixture of claim 1, having the fluorescent tubes of the respective modular fixtures oriented perpendicular to each other.

4. (Original) The modular fluorescent light fixture of claim 1, where said reflector is in the shape of a dual compound hyperbolic reflector.

Retrofit Concept

The retrofit concept is not well developed in the patent application. Applicants may run the risk of adding new matter if the concept is expanded adequately to disclose it fully.

Remove all reference to the retrofit concept in the patent application, as noted below.

Page 2, second paragraph, delete the following: [[Retrofit of fluorescent light fixtures with reflectors and energy saving components is a one-of-a-kind endeavor. Older fixtures have to be dismantled. Measurements are taken so reflectors can be designed to fit that particular fixture type. This is a time-consuming and costly approach to retrofit.]]

Page 3, paragraph at bottom of page, extending to page 4, is deleted. [[(Starting with) Yet another new use ... (ending with) ... attached to the existing housing.]]

Page 4 with heading "Specific Description of the Invention", 2nd paragraph, last sentence is deleted. [[Either configuration can be used to retrofit old, existing fluorescent light fixtures.]]

Claim No. 5 is cancelled.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC § 102

It is the position of the applicants that Fiene, US patent No. 6,508,567 B1, DOES NOT anticipate the present invention, a modular fluorescent light fixture, because there are numerous differences in the intent of the invention, differences in structure, and differences in the functions of individual components. These many differences are set forth in the paragraphs below. This comparison is made against the present patent application, which may be summarized as:

A 5-sided housing with sides and top mutually perpendicular to each other

Reflector is in the form of a conic section. The preferred form of the reflector is one having a hyperbolic cross-section, namely, a dual compound hyperbolic reflector.